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Letter dated 27 July 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention the statement on the situation in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia issued on 26 July 2001 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jean **De Ruyt**
Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 27 July 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

Statement on the situation in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia issued on 26 July 2001 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union

The European Union firmly condemns the violation of the ceasefire in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. It urgently appeals for calm and for the full restoration of the ceasefire.

The European Union reiterates once again that it is only through dialogue and negotiation that a lasting solution can be found to the difficulties that the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is currently experiencing. It enjoins the parties concerned to relaunch negotiations and to show the necessary spirit of compromise.

The European Union reiterates its full support for the new mission in Skopje today by the High Representative, Mr. Solana, who will be accompanied by the Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), Lord Robertson, and the Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Mr. Geoana. All the parties, which are now more than ever faced with their responsibilities, must conclude negotiations and agree on the necessary political reforms.

The European Union reiterates its attachment to the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. It hopes for continued rapprochement between the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the European Union, in the context of the stabilization and association process.